

REMARKS

Claims 2 and 12 have been canceled without prejudice.

Claims 2, 7, 11,13 have been amended.

Please note that claims 2-6, 11, 13-17 and 20 have been indicated as allowable.

Accordingly, claims 2 and 13 have been amended to include all limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims as suggested by the examiner. Claims 2-5 depend on the amended claim 2 and should be allowed. Claims 24-27 depend on the amended claim 13 and also should be allowed.

Claim 7 has been rejected under 103(a) over Sharma in view of Elliott.

Accordingly, claim 7 has been amended to introduce further limitations and to be of scope of the allowed claim 2 (as amended). Thus, the rejection under 103(a) has been overcome.

The language of claim 7 has also been clarified to obviate 35 USC 122 rejection. Again, the scope of the amended claim 7 is identical to the allowed claim 2 (as amended).

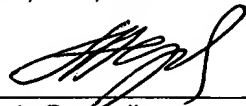
Claims 8-10 depend on the amended claim 7 and therefore should be allowable.

Claim 11 has been amended as suggested by the Examiner to clarify the language of the claim and to provide consistency.

Thus, all requisitions raised by the examiner have been addressed.

An early allowance of this application is courteously requested.

DANG, C.T., et al

By: 
Victoria Donnelly
Patent Agent
Reg. No. 44,185

VD/tk.
c/o

TROPIC NETWORKS INC.
Intellectual Property Department
135 Michael Cowpland Drive
Kanata, Ontario, Canada
K2M 2E9

Date: July 19, 2005
Telephone: (613) 270-6026
Fax: (613) 270-9663
e-mail: Victoria.Donnelly@tropicnetworks.com

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Tonia Kelly
Intellectual Property Administrator
Tropic Networks Inc.
135 Michael Cowpland Drive
Kanata, Ontario, Canada.
K2M 2E9

Date: July 19, 2005
Telephone: (613) 270-6942
Fax: (613) 270-9663
E-mail: tonia.kelly@tropicnetworks.com